

What is claimed is:

1. *(Currently Amended)* A composition comprising a dispersion of:
  - (a) a metal base with mean particle size ranging from 15 nanometres to about 1 micrometres, wherein the metal base is selected from the group consisting of:
    - (i) a metal hydroxide;
    - (ii) a metal base other than a metal hydroxide; and
    - (iii) mixtures thereof, wherein the metal hydroxide or the metal base contains a metal selected from the group consisting of lithium, potassium, sodium, copper, zinc, magnesium, calcium, barium, iron, cerium, and mixtures thereof,
  - (b) a surfactant; and
  - (c) an organic medium containing less than about 2 wt % of water wherein said metal base is present at a solids content greater than about 51 wt % of the composition when said metal base is a metal hydroxide, and at a solids content of greater than 15 wt % when said metal base is other than a metal hydroxide, or is a mixture.
2. *(Original)* The composition of claim 1, further comprising a carboxylic acid containing about 2 to about 30 carbon atoms, wherein the carboxylic acid is selected from a monocarboxylic acid, a polycarboxylic acid and mixtures thereof, and optionally the carboxylic acid is further substituted with groups selected from a hydroxyl group, an ester and mixtures thereof.
3. *(Original)* The composition of claim 1, wherein the metal base is anhydrous lithium hydroxide, lithium hydroxide monohydrate, magnesium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide, lithium carbonate, calcium carbonate, copper acetate, magnesium carbonate, calcium oxide, magnesium oxide, lithium oxide, cerium oxide, iron oxide or mixtures thereof.
4. *(Original)* The composition of claim 1, wherein the surfactant has a hydrophilic lipophilic balance of about 2 to about 16.

5. *(Original)* The composition of claim 1, wherein the organic medium containing less than about 2 wt % of water is an oil of lubricating viscosity, a liquid fuel, a hydrocarbon solvent or mixtures thereof.

6. *(Currently Amended)* A process for preparing a composition comprising the steps of:

(1) mixing (a) a metal base, wherein the metal base contains a metal selected from the group consisting of lithium, potassium, sodium, copper, zinc, magnesium, calcium, barium, iron, cerium, and mixtures thereof; (b) a surfactant and (c) an organic medium containing less than about 2 wt % of water to form a slurry;

(2) grinding the slurry of step (1) to form a dispersion;

(3) optionally heating the dispersion of step (2) to a temperature to about 40°C to about 190°C to form a dispersion;

(4) optionally reacting the dispersion of steps (2)-(3) with a carboxylic acid containing about 2 to about 30 carbon atoms, wherein the carboxylic acid is a monocarboxylic acid, a polycarboxylic acid or mixtures thereof, and optionally the carboxylic acid is further substituted with groups selected from a hydroxyl group, an ester and mixtures thereof,

wherein said metal base is present at a solids content greater than about 51 wt % of the composition when said metal base is a metal hydroxide and at a solids content of greater than 15 wt % when said metal base is other than a metal hydroxide or is a mixture; and wherein the metal base of the composition has a mean particle size ranging from 15 nanometres to about 1 micrometres.

7. *(Original)* The process of claim 6, wherein grinding procedure is by a rotor stator mixer, a vertical bead mill, a horizontal bead mill, basket milling, pearl milling or mixtures thereof.

8. *(Original)* The process of claim 6, further comprising heating the dispersion of step (2) to a temperature to about 40°C to about 190°C to form a finer dispersion.

9. *(Previously Presented)* The process of claim 6 wherein the dispersion has a solids content from about 35 wt % to about 84 wt %.

10. *(Currently Amended)* A composition comprising a dispersion of:

(a) a metal base selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) a metal hydroxide;
- (ii) a metal base other than a metal hydroxide; and
- (iii) mixtures thereof, wherein the metal hydroxide or the metal base contains a metal selected from the group consisting of lithium, potassium, sodium, copper, zinc, magnesium, calcium, barium, iron, cerium, and mixtures thereof;

wherein the metal base has a mean particle size ranging from 15 nanometres to about 1 micrometres;

(b) a surfactant;

(c) a carboxylic acid; and

(d) an organic medium containing less than about 2 wt % of water, wherein said metal base is present in at a solids content greater than about 51 wt % of the composition when the base is a metal hydroxide and at a solids content of greater than 15 wt % when said metal base is other than a metal hydroxide or is a mixture; and wherein the composition is a grease.

11. *(Currently Amended)* A fuel composition comprising:

(a) a dispersion comprising:

- (i) a surfactant other than a fatty acid or derivatives thereof;
- (ii) a metal base with a solids content of greater than about 35 wt % of the dispersion, wherein the metal base has a mean particle size ranging from 15 nanometres to about 1 micrometres, wherein the metal base contains a metal selected from the group consisting of lithium, potassium, sodium, copper, zinc, magnesium, calcium, barium, iron, cerium, and mixtures thereof; and

- (iii) an organic medium containing less than about 2 wt % of water; and
- (b) a liquid fuel.

12. *(Original)* The fuel composition of claim 11, wherein the surfactant is a derivative of a polyolefin, a hydrocarbyl substituted benzene sulphonic acid or sulphonate of an alkali metal, alkaline earth metal or mixtures thereof.

13. *(Original)* The fuel composition of claim 12, wherein the surfactant has a molecular weight of less than about 1000.

14. *(Original)* The fuel composition of claim 11, wherein the metal base is magnesium carbonate, magnesium hydroxide or magnesium oxide.

15. *(Original)* The fuel composition of claim 11 further comprising a demulsifier.